

Current FACts

FAC News to Use

July 10, 2014

FAC Spotlight: Flying High with T-38 Talon Aircraft

*Surplus Properties Works to Obtain Aircraft for
Aviation Heritage Park in Bowling Green*

It all started with a simple email that Gary Thornton received in February 2013.

Retired Brigadier General E. Daniel Cherry asked Thornton if Surplus Properties could help obtain an aircraft that NASA was ready to send to the "aircraft graveyard." The particular aircraft at issue was a T-38 Talon NASA used as a training aircraft for its program.

While every T-38 may not have special significance, this one did, as Russellville, Kentucky native Terrence W. Wilcutt, a retired Colonel from the United States Marine Corps, trained with this aircraft.



And, just as significant, all Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo astronauts trained on this aircraft as well.

This was exactly the type of aircraft that the Aviation Heritage Park in Bowling Green wanted to showcase the lives, contributions and service of famous Kentucky aviators from the Bowling Green area.

Thornton became intimately involved with this acquisition as he heads up the Federal Surplus Property Program through the Div. of Surplus Properties. This program allows Surplus Properties to work with the General Service Administration (GSA) to acquire and donate excess property that the federal government is no longer using.

"This was such an interesting project," said Thornton. "We see all types of surplus materials come through here, but this had to be one of the most memorable."

In March 2013 the T-38 Talon, with tail number 901 and serial# 66-8381 that Warren County Fiscal Court was interested in was listed as surplus. On April 11, 2013 the T-38 was transferred to the Kentucky Division of Surplus Property and then transferred to Warren County Fiscal Court.



Finally, on a snowy Saturday in March, 11 months after Surplus received word that the aircraft was cleared to come to Kentucky, it arrived at the Bowling Green/Warren County Regional Airport.

Restoration was the main priority and the volunteer and support group for the Aviation Heritage Park wasted no time in preparing the aircraft for paint and lettering. Within a 54-day span the T-38 was ready for the unveiling at Bowling Green/Warren County Regional Airport Aviation Heritage Park Hanger Party on June 14, 2014.

Many local dignitaries attended the unveiling as did several former astronauts including Colonel Terrence W. Wilcutt, a WKU graduate and shuttle commander, Robert "Hoot" Gibson and Dr. Rhea Seddon.

If you are visiting Warren County, take time to visit the Aviation Heritage Park and enjoy seeing the T-38 and other aircraft. Aviation Heritage Park is located at 1825 Three Springs Road, Bowling Green, KY.

"I am proud of all the work we do in Surplus Property," said Dewey Blevins, director for the division. "This just one of many things that the surplus team members do to perfection. They are all to be commended for all their hard work and dedication here at Surplus Property."



People lined up to see the restored T-38 Talon at the Aviation Heritage Park Hanger Party

Celebrating the 4th with a Big Turkey???

Penny Monroe with Building Services at the Capital Plaza Tower shared a picture of "Mr. Turkey" all decked out and ready to celebrate the 4th of July. Mr. Turkey is a sticker ball with 10 years worth of visitors' stickers. "He's only been a turkey since Thanksgiving, and we liked him so much, we kept him around!" she said.



KY Dept. for Libraries and Archives Update

Still urging patience for records requests & storage



Within less than two months the Div. of Public Records moved nearly 200,000 boxes to the new State Records Center at 1425 Leestown Road in Frankfort.

KDLA still has nearly 100,000 boxes of records to move out of their east Main Street building. Once moved, shelving must be erected and boxes then shelved.

For open records requests, KDLA is doing its best to respond and try to have records on their way within 24 hours after receiving a request. Unfortunately, with boxes on pallets rather than on shelves, finding individual records is challenging.

If anyone has a concern about responding to open records requests, please note that KRS 61.872(5) states that when "the public record is in active use, in storage or **not otherwise available**," it is acceptable for the agency to respond with a detailed explanation of the cause of the delay.

Kudos to the Office of Procurement Services

As the fiscal year comes to an end, agencies have all kinds of work that needs to be completed. As June 30 fast approached the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) reached out to the Office of Procurement Services (OPS) for assistance.

OPS staff processed 330 Personal Service Contracts, Memoranda of Agreements, and amendments in the months of May and June for CHFS alone.



These contracts were for such thing as community based services for mental health and substance abuse to services for the Title V Senior Community Services Employment Program for Kentuckians 55 or older.

Beth Jurek, head of the CHFS Office of Budget and Policy, was most appreciative and told Secretary Flanery how much she valued their help.

"I just wanted to let you know how much CHFS appreciates the help and assistance CHFS got from the Office of Procurement Services. They are great every year, but this year in particular, we encountered some unexpected snags. The Office of Procurement Services was always willing to help us work through solutions. I want to compliment the whole OPS team, and particularly Don, Joan, Tracy and Kathy."

HOME CANNING LUNCH & LEARN

Mark your Calendar



WHERE: The State Office Building Auditorium (A1/A2)

WHEN: July 24 2014, from 12 PM – 1 PM

SPEAKER(S): Joan Martin, Anderson County Extension Agent
& Tamera Thomas, Franklin County Extension Agent

TOPIC: Preserving the Harvest

Hosted by the State Office Building Green Team

**Click Here to Register for
KECC Golf Scramble
Friday, Aug. 1**